

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

4. (previously presented) A transgenic plant transformed with an exogenous copy of the *RAT5* gene of *Arabidopsis* to increase the transformation efficiency of the transgenic plant.

Claims 5-9 (canceled)

10. (previously presented) A host plant cell comprising an exogenous copy of a plant histone gene, wherein the expression of the plant histone gene increases transformation efficiency of the host plant cell.

11. (previously presented) The host plant cell of claim 10, wherein the plant histone gene encodes a histone H2A protein to increase the transformation efficiency of the host plant cell.

12. (previously presented) The host plant cell of claim 11, wherein the plant histone gene is the *RAT5* gene of *Arabidopsis*.

13. (previously presented) A transgenic plant comprising an exogenous copy of a plant histone gene, wherein the expression of the plant histone gene increases transformation efficiency of the transgenic plant.

14. (previously presented) The transgenic plant of claim 13, wherein the plant histone gene encodes a histone H2A protein to increase the transformation efficiency of the transgenic plant.